



CHESHUNT

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH REPORT 1972

Urban District Council of Cheshunt

Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

and

Chief Public Health Inspector

1972

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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHESHUNT

Public Health Committee, 1972/73

Councillor Mrs. B.C. Gull (Chairman)

Councillor Mrs. C. M. Piggott (Vice-Chairman)

Councillor Mrs. G. E. Arnold

Councillor K. Day

Councillor M. Farrington

Councillor Mrs. E. L. Larbalestier

Councillor L. C. Parker

Councillor N. Robson

Councillor Miss P. R. Whitthread

Councillor Mrs. P. R. Young

Public Health Department Staff:

Medical Officer of Health (Part-time):

John V. Earle, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H., D.I.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health (Part-time):

Eric Howarth, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H. (Appointed 1.5.72)

Official Address: "The Cedars", 131, High Street, Cheshunt,
Herts. EN8 0BH.

Telephone No. Waltham Cross 25102.

Chief Public Health Inspector: Petroleum Inspector: Shops Act Inspector:

J. L. Billings, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

D. Coyne, M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspectors:

A. J. Westney, M.A.P.H.I.

G. W. Bailey, M.A.P.H.I., (Resigned 30.1.72)

M. P. Riggs, M.A.P.H.I., (Appointed 28.3.72)

R. F. Cowlin, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H. (Resigned 25.6.72)

Mrs. J. B. M. Bushnell, M.A.P.H.I. (Appointed 1.8.72)

Student Public Health Inspector:

J. F. Priest

Administrative Assistant:

Mrs. J. A. Hall

Clerk

Mrs. S. Thomas (Appointed 10.1.72 - Resigned 15.9.72)

Mrs. G. Whittome (Appointed 9.10.72)

Pests Officer/General Assistant:

K. H. Newman

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
"THE CEDARS",
131, HIGH STREET,
CHESHUNT, HERTS. EN8 OBH.

October, 1973

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF CHESHUNT.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

During the year under review there were 328 deaths in Cheshunt. 128 of these occurred in people over 75 years of age. A further 83 occurred in people aged 65 - 75.

In addition, the amount of notified communicable disease is low.

From these figures it might be easy to conclude that the health in the area was good and that all was well.

I have often thought that we notify the wrong diseases nowadays. It seems more relevant to notify a traffic accident that causes a fracture than to notify a patient with measles.

Perhaps we should spotlight preventable causes of death more than we do. There is a strong association between cigarette smoking and lung cancer. In the past year 12 people under 65 died of this disease. It has been suggested that there is a link between the number of cigarettes smoked and the development of cancer. A man who smokes 20 cigarettes a day will get through about 150 a week or about 7,500 a year. Cancer seems to start in people who have had about 150,000 cigarettes and are considerably more common than usual in those who have smoked 250,000. At the rate I mentioned, it takes about 20 years to get through 150,000. By this time, a man may be in his forties - a young age to die.

When many people in the medical profession are looking toward reorganisation of the National Health Service in the future; it seems idle to write about the past. Whatever happens in detail, it is worth remembering that reorganisation of the National Health Service is coming about because the present service cannot meet the medical needs, because it is not evenly distributed nationally and because the administration is divided.

I do not think reorganisation will produce immediate and obvious benefits, but I believe that without reorganisation it is quite likely that certain needs would go unnoticed. Also the gap between needs and resources would grow greater.

I wish to thank the members of the Public Health Committee for their interest and Mr. Billings and his staff for their advice and help.

JOHN EARLE

Medical Officer of Health

SECTION 1

STATISTICS

AREA: The area of Cheshunt is 8,480 acres

POPULATION: Registrar-General's Estimate

1961 - 35,490	1965 - 40,380	1969 - 43,890
1962 - 36,630	1966 - 41,990	1970 - 44,100
1963 - 37,530	1967 - 42,900	1971 - 44,930
1964 - 39,040	1968 - 43,780	1972 - 45,540

	1971	1972	1973
Total hereditaments as per Valuation List (1st April)	17,634	18,196	18,704
Number of domestic hereditaments	14,105	14,537	14,803
Rateable Value	£2,348,012	£2,391,341	£5,737,367
Estimated product of penny rate	£22,878	£23,470	£57,416

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS

				Male	Female	Total
Live Births – Legitimate	...	...	...	357	296	653
Illegitimate	...	...	...	9	14	23
Total				366	310	676
Stillbirths – Legitimate	...	...	...	9	2	11
Illegitimate	...	...	...	—	—	—
Total				9	2	11
Deaths of Infants under 1 year:						
Legitimate	...	...	...	5	1	6
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	2	3
Total				6	3	9
Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks:						
Legitimate	...	...	...	1	1	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	1	2
Total				2	2	4
Deaths of Infants under 1 week						
Legitimate	...	...	...	1	1	2
Illegitimate	...	...	...	1	1	2
Total				2	2	4
Deaths of all ages	...	...	...	179	149	328

POPULATION:

The figures are only estimates. Over the years, the estimates do not show a steady increase but in some years there are substantial jumps. It may be that the Cheshunt figures are still too low. We do know that births exceed deaths by about 350 in this year. 207 new homes have been built in 1972.

BIRTH AND DEATH RATES:

To make an approximate allowance for the way in which the birth rate of the local population differs from that for England and Wales as a whole, the crude birth and death rates for the area should be multiplied by the area comparability factor supplied for the purpose by the General Register Office. When local crude birth and death rates have been so adjusted with the corresponding adjusted rate for any other area for that year.

The adjusted rates for Cheshunt, together with the crude rates for England and Wales for comparison are as follows:-

Birth Rates

Cheshunt					England & Wales
	<i>No. of Births</i>	<i>Crude Birth Rate</i>	<i>Comparability Factor</i>	<i>Adjusted Rate</i>	
1965	851	21.07	0.84	17.70	18.1
1966	831	19.79	0.84	16.62	17.7
1967	790	18.40	0.84	15.50	17.2
1968	793	18.10	0.84	15.20	16.9
1969	759	17.30	0.84	14.50	16.3
1970	785	17.80	0.84	15.00	16.0
1971	712	15.60	0.84	13.10	16.0
1972	687	14.80	0.94	13.90	14.8

Death Rates

Cheshunt					England & Wales
	<i>No. of Deaths</i>	<i>Crude Death Rate</i>	<i>Comparability Factor</i>	<i>Adjusted Rate</i>	
1965	292	7.23	1.53	11.06	11.5
1966	255	6.07	1.52	9.23	11.7
1967	272	6.30	1.62	10.20	11.2
1968	292	6.70	1.63	10.90	11.9
1969	272	6.20	1.62	10.00	11.9
1970	318	7.20	1.62	11.70	11.7
1971	324	7.20	1.62	11.70	11.6
1972	328	7.20	1.62	11.70	12.1

	Cheshunt	England & Wales
Live Birth Rate (crude)	14.80	14.80
Area Comparability Factor	0.94	1.00
Standardised Birth Rate	13.90	14.80
Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate	0.94	1.00
Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births	3.00	9.00
Still Birth Rate		
per 1,000 total live and stillbirths ...	16.00	12.00
Infant Mortality Rate		
Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births	13.00	17.00
Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births ...	9.00	17.00
Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births ...	130.00*	21.00
Neonatal Mortality Rate		
Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births	6.00	12.00
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate		
Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	6.00	10.00
Perinatal Mortality Rate		
Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and stillbirths ...	22.00	22.00
Death Rate (crude)		
per 1,000 home population	7.20	12.10
Area Comparability Factor	1.62	1.00
Standardised Death Rate	11.70	12.10

INFANT MORTALITY:

All infants per 1,000 live births

	Cheshunt No. of Deaths	Rate	England & Wales
1962	23	29.56	21.60
1963	14	17.48	21.10
1964	7	8.36	20.00
1965	10	11.75	19.00
1966	17	20.46	19.00
1967	8	10.10	18.30
1968	13	16.00	18.00
1969	10	13.00	18.00
1970	9	11.00	18.00
1971	12	17.00	18.00
1972	9	13.00	17.00

* Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births - this figure is six times the national average. In fact it refers to the deaths of only three illegitimate children. One occasionally gets misleadingly high proportions when dealing with small numbers.

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING 1972:

	Male	Female	Total
Syphilis and Its Sequelae	—	1	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases...	—	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus ...	2	—	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	3	5
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	3	1	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx	—	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ...	21	8	29
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	9	9
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	4	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	5	—	5
Leukaemia	1	—	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	12	9	21
Benign and Unspecified Neoplasms ...	—	1	1
Diabetes Mellitus	2	2	4
Other Diseases of Nervous System ...	1	—	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease ...	1	1	2
Hypertensive Disease	2	4	6
Ischaemic Heart Disease	57	29	86
Other Forms of Heart Disease	3	8	11
Cerebrovascular Disease	18	23	41
Other Diseases of the Circulatory System	6	11	17
Pneumonia	15	12	27
Bronchitis and Emphysema	10	5	15
Asthma	1	2	3
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	3	1	4
Peptic Ulcer	1	1	2
Intestinal Obstruction and Hemia ...	—	1	1
Cirrhosis of Liver	1	—	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System ...	2	2	4
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	—	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System.. 7	1	1	2

Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System ...	—	1	1
Congenital Anomalies	1	1	2
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, Etc. ...	1	1	2
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality ...	1	1	2
	Male	Female	Total
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions ...	—	1	1
Motor Vehicle Accidents	2	1	3
All Other Accidents	1	1	2
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	2	—	2
Total All Causes	179	149	328

There were 676 live births and 328 deaths, so there was a natural increase of 348. There were 23 illegitimate births (2.2% of total births), the national percentage is 9.

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

SECTION II

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

AMBULANCE	Fire and Ambulance Station, Cheshunt, (Waltham Cross 23281). Two Ambulances, two sitting-case cars.
ANTE-NATAL	Health Centre, 178, High Street, Waltham Cross. (Waltham Cross 38652). Mondays 1.30 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Health Centre, Blindmans Lane, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 28232). Tuesdays - evening. Relaxation and Mothercraft Class by appointment. Tuesdays 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.
CHILD HEALTH	Health Centre, 178, High Street, Waltham Cross. (Waltham Cross 23401). Wednesdays 10.00 a.m. to noon. Wednesdays 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Health Centre, Blindmans Lane, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 28232). Mondays 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Thursdays 10.00 a.m. to noon. Dig Dag Hill Hall, Cheshunt. Tuesdays 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Memorial Hall, Goffs Oak Fridays 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.
CHIROPODY	Health Centre, 178, High Street, Waltham Cross. (Waltham Cross 23401). Tuesdays p.m.) Fridays a.m.) by appointment.
DAY NURSERY	Crossbrook Day Nursery, Crossbrook Street, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 24878).
DENTAL	Health Centre, 178, High Street, Waltham Cross. (Waltham Cross 24332). Mondays all day. Tuesdays all day. Wednesdays all day. Thursdays mornings (alternate). Fridays a.m. (weekly) - Orthodontist. Health Centre, Blindmans Lane, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 21844). Wednesdays a.m. Thursdays a.m. Fridays p.m. - Orthodontist.

DISTRICT NURSES/ MIDWIVES	<p>4, Cozens Lane East, Broxbourne, (Hoddesdon 62656).</p> <p>32, Darcy Close, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 29308).</p> <p>27, Ousden Drive, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 23745).</p> <p>1, Prescott Road, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 22344).</p> <p>79, Queens Road, Waltham Cross, (Waltham Cross 33622).</p> <p>24, Rowlands Close, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 29032).</p>
DISTRICT NURSES	<p>65, Broadlands Avenue, Enfield. (01 804 3311).</p> <p>38, Martins Drive, Cheshunt.</p> <p>106, Trinity Lane, Waltham Cross. (Waltham Cross 24830).</p>
FAMILY PLANNING	<p>Health Centre, 178, High Street, Waltham Cross. Mondays 7.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Tuesdays 9.30 a.m. to 11.00 a.m. Thursdays 7.00 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.</p>
HEALTH VISITORS	<p>Can be contacted at the addresses shown under 'Child Health'.</p>
HOME HELP SERVICE	<p>Local Organiser: Mrs. M. L. K. Frost. Assistant Home Help Organiser: Mrs. Crame. Social Services Department, 79, Crossbrook Street, Waltham Cross. (Waltham Cross 24658). Office Hours: Mondays 8.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Tuesdays 8.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Wednesdays 8.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. Thursdays 8.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Fridays 8.30 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. and 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.</p>
MEDICAL LOAN EQUIPMENT	<p>178A, High Street, Waltham Cross (Waltham Cross 38652). Mondays to Fridays 9.00 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.</p>
OPHTHALMIC	<p>Health Centre, Blindmans Lane, Cheshunt. Friday mornings (by appointment).</p>
SOCIAL WELFARE	<p>Social Work Unit, Westfield, West Street, Hertford. (Hertford 7041). Sub-office 79A Crossbrook Street, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 20905).</p>

SPEECH THERAPY	Health Centre, High Street, Waltham Cross. Thursdays a.m.
	Health Centre, Blindmans Lane, Cheshunt. Wednesdays.
WELFARE FOODS	Health Centre, High Street, Waltham Cross. Wednesdays 10.00 a.m. to noon and 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.
	Health Centre, Blindmans Lane, Cheshunt. Mondays 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. Thursdays 10.00 a.m. to noon and 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.
	Memorial Hall Goffs Oak, Cheshunt. Fridays 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m.
WELL-WOMAN CLINIC (Cytology)	Health Centre, High Street, Waltham Cross. 2nd and 4th Mondays a.m. 2nd and 4th Wednesdays p.m.

SOCIAL SERVICES:

The Divisional Social Services Officer during 1972 was:-

Miss M. Copleston.

The present Divisional Social Services Officer is:-

Mr. A. C. Stuteley, Westfield, West Street, Hertford. Tel. Hertford 7041.

The Assistant Divisional Social Services Officer is:-

Mr. H. W. Scott, Westfield, West Street, Hertford. Tel. Hertford 7041,
Social Worker - Occupational Therapist (covering Hoddesdon Urban
District and Cheshunt Urban District is:-

Mrs. B. Headland, Westfield, West Street, Hertford. Tel. Hertford 7041.
Sub-office for the Cheshunt Urban District, Social Department, 79,
Crossbrook Street, Cheshunt. Tel. Waltham Cross 20905

Senior Social Worker is:-

Mr. G. Shuttleworth.

Social Workers are:-

Miss S. J. Bloomer

Miss G. Earthy

Mr. D. G. Evans

Mrs. M. Greenwood

Mrs. S. Hickman

Mrs. P. Lucas

Mrs. Morgan

Mrs. P. Page

BLOOD TRANSFUSION:

Sessions are held at the Health Centre, Waltham Cross, at regular intervals Further information may be obtained from Miss E. R. Cooper, Honorary Local Organiser, National Blood Transfusion Service, 41, Southfield Road, Waltham Cross, Telephone Waltham Cross 26258.

BRITISH RED CROSS

The Society has a range of medical equipment for the sick and injured available on loan on the recommendation of Medical Practitioners and District Nurses. The equipment is at 178A, High Street, Waltham Cross. The depot is open from 9.00 a.m. to 1.00 p.m. daily.

In addition to their normal activities, which include the provisions of First Aid Posts at local events, the detachment has available a team which is on call for disaster relief work. Non-members of the Society are welcome for First Aid Training. Details may be obtained from the Commandant, Miss E. R. Cooper, 41, Southfield Road, Waltham Cross, (Waltham Cross 26258).

There is a flourishing unit for Cadets, who meet every Thursday at 6.30 p.m.

W. R. V. S. MEALS SERVICE:

The W. R. V. S. continue to operate the Meals on Wheels Service for housebound people nominated by statutory welfare sources. The service is used mainly by old age pensioners and particularly by men living alone.

The scope of this service both nationally and locally is very extensive, as can be seen from the annual figures for meals on wheels for 1972. The overall figures for meals delivered by the W. R. V. S. in Hertfordshire during the year was 227,379 and of this total Cheshunt's quota was 12,821. The total number of old age people receiving these meals was 2,780.

The distribution problem is still very difficult one as drivers move away, have babies or else take jobs. A local organisation is presenting a van very shortly so more drivers will be needed. At present 70 meals per day are taken out and that means a lot of work for only two cars as the deliveries cover Holdbrook in the east. Slipe Lane in the north and Newgatestreet Road in the west.

There is still a great need for additional helpers at the Cheshunt Centre since the number of persons requiring meals is constantly increasing. Further information may be obtained from Mrs. E. M. Brown, Centre Organiser. W. R. V. S. Centre, Albury Grove Road, Cheshunt. (Waltham Cross 22050).

SECTION III

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES:

The following table shows details of diseases notified during 1971 and 1972:-

			1971 Notified Cases	Notified Cases	1972 Cases admitted to hospital	Deaths
Dysentery	...	...	2	—	—	—
Acute Encephalitis	...	...	—	1	1	1
Food Poisoning	...	...	3	7	—	—
Measles	...	...	125	25	—	—
Infective Hepatitis	...	...	9	7	3	—
Meningitis	...	...	2	1	1	—
Scarlet Fever	...	...	3	9	1	—
Tuberculosis	...	...	3	7	7	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	22	2	—	—

MEASLES:

This table shows the number of cases of measles notified annually during the past ten years:-

Year				Notified Cases			Notification per 1,000 population
1963	...	...	...	836	...	...	22.28
1964	...	...	...	383	...	...	9.81
1965	...	...	...	269	...	...	6.66
1966	...	...	...	375	...	...	8.95
1967	...	...	...	507	...	...	11.80
1968	...	...	...	126	...	...	2.88
1969	...	...	...	111	...	...	2.52
1970	...	...	...	279	...	...	6.32
1971	...	...	...	125	...	...	2.76
1972	...	...	...	25	...	...	0.55

WHOOPIING COUGH

The notified incidence of this disease over the past ten years is shown in the following table:-

Year				Notified Cases			Notification per 1,000 population
1963	...	...	...	52	...	...	1.39
1964	...	...	...	53	...	...	1.36
1965	...	...	...	3	...	...	0.07

Year	Notified Cases			Notification per 1,000 population		
1966	6	...	...	0.14
1967	5	...	...	0.10
1968	10	...	...	0.22
1969	1	...	...	0.02
1970	2	...	...	0.04
1971	22	...	...	0.49
1972	2	...	...	0.04

DISINFECTION:

No current or terminal disinfection was carried out during the year.

Library books from houses where notifiable diseases had occurred are returned to the Public Health Department for disinfection before re-issue by the Library.

Reported Scabies occurred in four families in the area. The records show that four children were treated at the Cleansing Station at the London Borough of Enfield.

There is no obligation on general practitioners to report Scabies. It is frequently treated by general practitioners. Reported Scabies in school children in the country has increased from about 3,500 in 1963 to 14,335 in 1968. Reports from the Royal College of General Practitioners confirm this upward trend.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION:

All parents are advised to take advantage of this service, which can be obtained from their family doctors or at Infant Welfare Centres.

Approximate Age	Vaccine
6 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough. POLIOMYEITIS (ORAL)
8 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough. POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
13 months	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough. POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL)
15 months	MEASLES.

Approximate Age	Vaccine
School entry	POLIOMYELITIS (ORAL).
School entry	COMBINED diphtheria, tetanus.
13 years	B.C.G. Vaccination against TUBERCULOSIS.
	RUBELLA (German Measles) - vaccination is offered to those girls, who have not already had this disease.

This is not a rigid time-table. Many Doctors hold slightly differing views, and prematurity or ill-health in a child may mean the schedule has to be altered to meet individual needs.

During 1971, the Department of Health and Social Security ceased to recommend smallpox vaccination as a routine. Vaccination of infants can still be arranged if necessary at Infant Welfare Centres or by General Practitioners

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

The Mass X-ray Unit of the North East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board visited Cheshunt each Friday between 10.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m., and was open to all persons over 14 years of age. No appointments were necessary.

The details of the Mass Radiography Unit for the year are given in the following tables. During previous visits of the Unit to Cheshunt the total number X-rayed were as follows:-

1959 - 2,711	1969 - 2,936
1962 - 2,463	1970 - 4,154
1965 - 2,749	1971 - 4,321
1968 - 4,782	1972 - 4,048

This is a free service. It is of great value not only in detecting actual diseases in the lungs, but is also of value in ensuring that disease is absent. For example, student teachers are X-rayed before they come into contact with children.

If disease is found, a report is sent to the patient's general practitioner.

The service is confidential. The actual procedure is speedy (a matter of minutes) and people are not required to undress.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY

Old Drill Hall, Cheshunt

						Male	Female	Total
Referred by General Practitioner	...	...	...	...	...	458	389	847
General Public	...	...	...	...	...	962	723	1,685
Organised Groups	...	...	...	...	...	259	1,189	1,448

	Male	Female	Total
Contact Groups	7	2	9
Residents - Old Peoples' Homes	29	30	59
Total number X-rayed	1,715	2,333	4,048
Requiring further investigation	57	38	95
PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS:			
Requiring immediate treatment	2	—	2
Requiring close clinic supervision	1	—	1
Requiring occasional clinic supervision	7	4(1PK)	11
Presumed healed, discharged... ..	3	1	4
GROUPS IN WHICH SIGNIFICANT TUBERCULOSIS WAS DISCOVERED:			
Requiring immediate treatment - G. P. Referral ...	1	—	1
General Public	1	—	1
Requiring close clinic supervision - G. P. Referral	1	—	1
OTHER ABNORMALITIES DISCOVERED WERE:			
Primary carcinoma of lung	5	2	7
Secondary carcinoma	1	1	2
Non-malignant tumors	—	1	1
Sarcoidosis	1	3	4
Congenital abnormalities of the heart and vascular system ...	—	1	1
Acquired abnormalities of the heart and vascular system	4	1	5
Bacterial and virus infection of lung	10	3	13
Bronchiectasis	—	1	1
Pulmonary fibrosis (not TB or industrial)	3	4	7
Spontaneous pneumothorax	—	1	1
Abnormalities of the diaphragm and oesophagus... ..	4	—	4
Pleural effusion (Non TB)	1	—	1
Other abnormalities	9	5	14
Did not attend for further investigation	1	1	2
Did not attend for repeat miniature film	5	—	5

PK - previously known.

TUBERCULOSIS :

The number of new cases of Tuberculosis in 1972 was 7.

New cases, 1972 — classified by age groups :-

Age	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Totals
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
0— 5	—	1	—	—	1
5—15	—	—	—	—	—
15—25	—	—	—	—	—
25—35	1	1	—	—	2
35—45	—	—	—	—	—
45—55	5	2	—	—	7

	1969	1970	1971	1972
Number of cases from other areas transferred to Cheshunt ...	2	2	1	1

The following table shows notifications and deaths in England and Wales for the period 1966 — 1971 : -

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971
Cases	14,616	13,223	12,984	12,162	11,907	11,694
Deaths	3,242	2,050	2,196	1,835	1,563	1,339

This disease is not extinct. Patients still do occasionally occur who are seriously ill due to Tuberculosis. Some are coughing up tubercle bacilli in their sputum. Careful control and follow up of contacts is still essential.

“DAYS GONE BY”

1912 — In his report for the year the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. W. F. Clark, estimated the population to be 13,040. There were 306 births of which 6 were illegitimate. (Birth rate 23.9 per 1,000). Deaths amounted to 138 (with a rate of 10.3 per 1,000), of which 18 died under the age of one. (Rate 57.7 per 1,000 births).

A great improvement was made by clearing out the small River Lea and a “new cut” in Waltham Abbey. This reduced the amount of flooding in Waltham New Town, which was previously a regular feature with water running freely in houses in Sydney, Melbourne and Harold Road, Cheshunt Wash, however, is still frequently flooded.

There were 17 cases of diphtheria (2 deaths), 22 of Scarlet Fever, 29 of Tuberculosis (17 deaths) and 5 deaths due to Whooping Cough.

1922 — Dr. J. McClymont for this year reported the estimated population was 13,770. Births 252 including 12 illegitimate (Rate 18.3 per 1,000). Deaths 145 (Rate 10.5 per 1,000). Fifteen children died under one year old (Rate 59.5 per 1,000 compared with country as a whole which was 77.00 per 1,000). There were 9 cases of diphtheria and 32 of Tuberculosis (17 deaths).

“The building of 36 houses in the Waltham Cross area on the Pauls Site were started in the Spring and all were at the end of the year app-

roaching completion. When these became ready to let and apportion there were over 300 applicants. There is little doubt that many more houses are needed to be built either by private enterprise or by the municipal bodies." It seems strange that 50 years later the last sentence could be written today, despite the fact that no less than 11,700 houses have been built in the meantime.

During his examination of 679 school children two cases of Tuberculosis were found, nevertheless, he reports that they "were generally well nourished and of the healthy country type."

The Cottage Hospital supported by voluntary subscription had a very busy year — 106 patients being admitted and 47 major operations carried out.

There was no Institutional provision for unmarried mothers, illegitimate infants, or homeless children except that provided by the Edmonton Board of Guardians at the North Middlesex Hospital.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

I submit my report for the year 1972 on the work carried out by the Public Health Inspectors.

Mr. G. W. Bailey left the Department in January to an appointment with the Harlow Urban District Council. Mr. M. P. Riggs of the London Borough of Waltham Forest succeeded him in March. Mr. R. F. Cowlin resigned in June to take up an appointment with the East Dean Rural District Council in Gloucestershire. Mrs. J. B. M. Bushnell from the London Borough of Hackney was appointed as his successor in August. There are only approximately fifty female Public Health Inspectors in the United Kingdom; because of the peculiar nature of training, qualifying and working in what is usually a man's world makes it an exacting and demanding profession. I am pleased to report that Mrs. Bushnell has "measured up" to her task admirably. Mrs. S. Thomas appointed as Clerk in January resigned in September prior to giving birth to her first child in November.

In a small department such changes interfere with the smooth flow of work, nevertheless considerable progress was made.

The results of bacteriological food sampling continued to be below our accepted standard (there is no legal standard) in the early part of the year, but explanations, and improved hygienic preparation in the shops resulted in more satisfactory results being achieved.

Improvement grant applications again increased to a combined total of 92 against 52 in 1971. At the present rate very few unimproved houses will remain by 1980.

Smoke Control Area No. 8 was approved by the Council which when brought into operation will cover a further 526 houses. Between 55 — 60% of houses will then be smoke controlled. Although the benefits are obvious enough and it is highly desirable that the whole area should be controlled, the results from the daily atmospheric recording stations show little improvement chemically during the last few years. It must, however, be remembered that the population and road transport are increasing annually.

The general picture of working conditions in the area is a satisfactory one, there are, however, too many accidents all of which upon investigation were found to be avoidable.

Finally, I wish to acknowledge the co-operation of all officers in other departments and the loyal support of members of this department.

J. L. BILLINGS,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION 1

STATISTICS

INSPECTION OF THE AREA:

The inspections made by the public health inspectors during the year numbered 3,775 and details as to the nature of the inspections are given in the tables which follow. 814 complaints relating to a variety of matters were received.

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS:

Number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects	...	639
Number of dwelling houses inspected other than for housing defects	...	593
Number of premises other than houses inspected	... ..	1,189
Premises re-inspected	... ..	818
Visits to works in progress	... ..	432
Miscellaneous visits	... ..	1,124

Included in the above tables are the following classified visits:-

Infectious Disease	... ..	107
Disposal of Refuse	... ..	89
Drainage Works	... ..	258
Water Supplies and Swimming Baths	... ..	16
Infestations and Pests	... ..	72
Improvement Grants	... ..	421
Standard Improvement Grants	... ..	248
Smoke Control Areas	... ..	148
Slaughterhouses	... ..	56
Food Premises including Mobile Shops	... ..	662
Factories	... ..	43
Smoke Nuisances	... ..	85
Atmospheric Pollution Stations	... ..	53
Fumaces and Boiler Installations	... ..	6
Smoke Observations	... ..	27
Caravans	... ..	47
Petroleum Installations	... ..	131
Noise Abatement	... ..	73
Rodent Control	... ..	107
Offices, Shops	... ..	442
Qualification Certificates	... ..	85
Imported Food	... ..	11

HOUSING STATISTICS:

Number of houses erected since 1945:

By the Cheshunt U.D.C.	2,675
By other Local Authorities	1,639
By Private Enterprise... ..	6,105
	10,419

Number of houses erected during 1972

By the Cheshunt U.D.C.	10
By other Local Authorities	148
By Private Enterprise	49
	207

Number of houses demolished or closed as unfit for human habitation since 1953	201
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SERVICE OF NOTICES:

Under Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936	10
Under Section 93, Public Health Act, 1936	12
Under Section 277, Public Health Act, 1936	43
Under Section 287, Public Health Act, 1936	3
Under Section 17, Public Health Act, 1961	2
Under Section 26, Public Health Act, 1961	7
Under Section 159, Housing Act, 1957	5
Under Section 170, Housing Act, 1957	6
Under Section 15, Housing Act, 1961	1
Under Section 12, Clean Air Act, 1956	2

SECTION II

FOOD

Food premises in the area classified according to type of business are given as follows : -

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Bakers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Cafes and Refreshment Houses	...							21
Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Chemists	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Chinese Take Aways	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cinemas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Clubs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	58
Dairies and Milk Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Fish Fryers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Fruiterers and Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	26
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
School Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

In the course of the year 1,018 visits were made to premises where food is prepared, stored or exposed for sale. Contraventions were found resulting in 83 letters being sent requiring works to comply with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1970.

FOOD HYGIENE 'CODES OF PRACTICE'

As reported in the last annual report, towards the end of last year this Department was in the process of preparing its own guide to food handlers. These 'Codes of Practice' are in the form of a multi-page document so designed that the pages can be easily detached and are coloured so as to be prominent on staff notice boards. They cover items where good handling and storage are essential to prevent the growth of bacteria and perhaps consequent food poisoning or the deterioration of the product which could result in mould growth.

The items covered are cooked poultry, fresh sausages, fresh meat pies, and cooked meat. Attached to the front of these 'Codes' are other sheets which give advice to food handlers on their personal cleanliness, and advice to owners or Managers of food premises on the matters which should be given attention in their premises. The matters discussed under food premises were construction, repair, lay-out, lighting and ventilation, and cleaning.

Once these documents had been prepared, a copy was sent with a covering letter to the head office of all the large Companies operating within the Urban District, informing them that it was our intention to distribute these 'Codes of Practice' to all premises where these goods were being sold or handled and that we would like their co-operation in ensuring that their staff would take heed of them. There was a very good response from all these Companies and it is pleasing to note that many of them stated that these 'Codes of Practice' and other of our suggestions would be incorporated in manuals that they were themselves preparing for distribution to their premises nationally. In many instances further copies were requested for distribution within the Companies.

Once this initial approach had been made, a copy or copies of the 'Codes of Practice' were distributed to the retail and wholesale outlet within the District. It appears that there has been some beneficial affect of this distribution because the cooked meat samples taken during the year were of a much better standard bacteriologically than they had been on previous occasions. The Public Health Inspectors have noted during their visits to food premises that the manner in which these products are handled and stored has improved. This is probably in some part due to the parent Companies issuing instructions to their branches to adhere as closely as possible to these 'Codes of Practice' and it has in many cases prompted the Companies to undertake renewal of its equipment to provide better storage facilities. In another respect it would appear that for the first time members of staff employed in serving these products have had an opportunity to read easily understood instructions on the best manner in which to deal with them. I am sure this has led to them having an interest in selling the product in the most hygienic manner possible.

Unfortunately, there will always be premises where the handling and storage leaves something to be desired. It is only by making numerous visits and applying constant pressure that an improvement in the situation can be made.

REGISTRATION OF FOOD PREMISES

The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, is as follows :-

Premises	No.
Ice Cream premises	78
Food Preparation Premises	22

UN SOUND FOOD SURRENDERED OR CONDEMNED

						Tons	Cwt.	Lbs.
Meat at Staughterhouse	...	...	...	...	...	—	2	5
Meat at Retail Shops	...	...	...	...	...	—	3	57
Canned Meat	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	63
Other Foods	...	...	...	...	...	8	7	51
Total						<u>8</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>64</u>

IMPORTED FOOD REGULATIONS, 1968

As in previous years 25 containers, which had not been inspected at the port of arrival, came into various depots within this authority for inspection and distribution. Fortunately as a result of the matters resolved last year there were no problems.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

There is only one slaughterhouse in the area, which is licensed until 30th September, 1973. These premises are regularly inspected by the Divisional Veterinary Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture.

During the year a 100% meat inspection service was maintained. The details of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned are shown in the following tables:-

			Cattle excluding				
			Cows	Cows	Calves	Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	...	...	118	—	—	360	330
Number inspected	...	...	118	—	—	360	330
Whole carcasses condemned			—	—	—	—	1
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned			4	—	—	2	21
Tuberculosis only	...	...	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticeri	...	...	—	—	—	—	—

The total charges for the year's meat inspection amounted to £52.14.

LICENSING OF SLAUGHTERMEN

Three slaughtermen's licences to slaughter animals in a slaughterhouse by the captive bolt method were issued for the year.

MILK LICENCES

Four new applications were received during the year. All were granted and will expire on the 31st December, 1975.

FOOD COMPLAINTS

There were 46 food complaints received by this Department during the year of which 8 were reported to the Public Health Committee where legal proceedings were authorised and of these, four had been heard before the Court. In all cases a successful prosecution resulted in a fine with costs imposed. In the other 38 cases either no formal action could be taken or it was felt that the matter was best resolved by the issue of a warning letter. The complaints dealt with by way of legal proceedings were as follows : -

Food Complaint No.	Commodity	Result
938	Fly eggs on pork and beef Chipolatas	Fined £25, Costs £15 and Analyst's fee £6.
985	Unfit sausagemeat	Fined £10, Costs £17.50.
986	Foreign matter in slices of chopped pork	Fined £25, Costs £10, and Analyst's fee £6.

The above cases were authorised for legal proceedings in 1971 but not heard until 1972.

1014	Mouse body in packet of salted peanuts	Legal proceedings authorised but not heard due to legal technicality.
1015	Rancid butter	Fined £25, Costs £17.20.
1018	Cigarette end in loaf	Fined £30, Costs £5 and Analyst's fee £5.50
1024	Mouldy apple tart	Fined £40, Costs £17.50.
1036	Foreign material in loaf	Fined £50, Costs £17.50 and Analyst's fee £5.65
1037	Mouldy sausage roll	Legal proceedings authorised but not yet heard
1052	Mouldy rissole	Legal proceedings authorised but not yet heard

Food Complaint No.	Commodity	Result
1060	Fly eggs on boiled bacon	Legal proceedings authorised but not yet heard

In the Court cases, fines totalling £205.00 were imposed with £99.70 costs and £23.15 Analyst's fees (Total £327.85).

FOOD COMPLAINED OF

Bread (13)	Jam (1)
Butter (3)	Meat and pastry products (2)
Cakes (3)	Milk (3)
Cheese (3)	Sausages or sausage meat (1)
Coffee (2)	Soup (1)
Cooked Chicken (1)	Sugar (1)
Crisps (2)	Tinned Vegetables (2)
Drink (1)	Tinned Corned Beef (1)
Fresh Meat (2)	Tinned baby food (2)

REASONS FOR COMPLAINTS:

Dirty Bottles (3)	Mould (17)
Foreign matter (25)	

FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING :

During the year 53 samples were taken. All were genuine and details of which are in the tables : .

Baby food (2)	Cream (1)
Bacon bits (1)	Custard (1)
Beef with vegetable soup (1)	Dried beans (1)
Bread (4)	Fish and chips (1)
Calves liver pate (1)	Flavouring (2)
Chocolate mallows (1)	Gravy (1)
Chocolate (1)	Horseradish (1)
Chow mein with beef (1)	Jam (1)
Coffee essence (1)	Jelly (1)
Coffee mate (1)	Meat and fish pastes (2)

Meat and pastry products (2)	Soft drinks (2)
Milk shakes (1)	Stuffed pork roll (1)
Mixed peel (1)	Sweet pickle (1)
Pasteurised milk (1)	Tea (1)
Peanuts (1)	Teewurst extra (1)
Raisins (1)	Tinned meat (1)
Rice pudding (1)	Tomato soup (1)
Rice with shrimps (1)	Vegetable salad (1)
Salad dressing (1)	Walnuts (1)
Seasoning (1)	

Three samples were taken to assist the joint survey of pesticide residue in foodstuff sold in England and Wales. The samples taken were:-

Mushrooms (1)	Lettuce (1)
Celery (1)	

The Analyst reports as follows : -

Mushrooms	BHC 11 parts per thousand million
Celery	DDT 56 parts per thousand million. Copper 566 parts per thousand million
Lettuce	Dieldrin 24 parts per thousand million DDT 42 parts per thousand million.

In each case the Analyst was of the opinion that the same was genuine in the sense that it was free from objectionable levels of pesticide residues.

BACTERIOLOGICAL SAMPLING :

Ice Cream

During the year 7 ice cream samples were taken of which 6 were Grade 1 and the remaining 1 — Grade 3.

Cooked Meats

44 samples of cooked meats were taken from retail outlets within the Urban District to supplement the inspectors food hygiene visits and in many cases to give a practical example by highlighting bad storage and handling techniques. In most cases the results were reasonably satisfactory but in others they ranged from poor to totally unsatisfactory in terms of bacterial count. One or two isolated cases of scant food poisoning organisms were isolated. No one product seems to be more at risk than another as the samples covered the full range of cooked meat

products sold and the poor results were spread over this range. It would appear that though we have control for the manufacture of cooked meats and the manufacture and sale of ice cream, there is a fundamental control lacking in that we are unable to prevent shops selling cooked meats, as registration or licensing is not necessary, and from the results we have obtained it would appear that in many cases the proper equipment, i.e. refrigeration etc., and the necessary training for staff to serve this particular commodity is lacking. We hope that the issue of our 'Codes of Practice' will assist in improving techniques.

Apart from the specific samples taken there were 20 samples of miscellaneous items taken as follows : -

Cream (8)

Pastry and meat products (8)

Flour confectionery (4)

FOOD HYGIENE (MARKET STALLS AND DELIVERY VEHICLE) REGULATIONS, 1966.

Legal proceedings were instituted against the owner of a vehicle used for the delivery and sale of groceries including open food under the above Regulations. Summonses were taken out for contraventions of : -

Regulation 6 - Cleanliness of equipment,

Regulation 9 - Persons handling open food to wear over-clothing etc.,

Regulation 16 - Wash hand basin to be provided,

Regulation 17 - First aid materials to be provided.

Regulation 18 - Facilities for washing, sorting food and equipment.

At the subsequent Court hearing the owner was fined £66.00 with £10.00 costs.

SECTION III

HOUSING

As a result of the almost "stop" in new house building both in the public and private sector, the emphasis was placed on house improvement. Local authorities were urged by the Government to make improvements easier to obtain; circulars, leaflets, advertisements in the press and on television (often slightly misleading) could not by the end of the year have left the public in any doubt that grants were available. Some local authorities took this to mean "anything and everything now qualifies for grant". I do not accept this view. Public money should not be squandered in improving property over and above the twelve point standard especially when there is so much property not even up to the five point standard. Such a useful scheme as improvement grants should not be brought into disrepute in this way or by property speculators (mainly in London) being paid many thousands of pounds with no conditions attached. Perhaps a 3 year period should elapse before a property can be sold without repayment of grant.

The final figures for the 1971 census were published by the Office of Population and Surveys and showed some interesting but not surprising statistics. A detailed summary was submitted to the Housing and Estates Committee (Minute 1142/73). The report revealed that 61% of houses were owner/occupied, 29% rented from local authorities and 8% rented unfurnished accommodation from private landlords, 93% of occupiers had the exclusive use of a hot water supply, fixed bath and inside water closet, 4.2% (607) have outside toilets and 3.8% (549) are without a bath. The majority of these houses could be improved with grant aid, and should be.

The controversial Housing Finance Act, 1972, came into operation on the 27th July, 1972. Part III of the Act supersedes Part III of the Housing Act, 1969, and effecting certain changes in the procedures for converting into regulated tenancies by the issue of Qualification Certificates, those controlled tenancies which reach the qualifying standard of amenity and repair. Part IV provides for a staged programme for converting the remaining controlled tenancies; for phasing certain rent increases; for the local authority applications to the rent officer and for rent agreements between landlord and tenant.

Basically the Qualification Certificate procedure will come to an end and all tenancies of properties with a rateable value on the 31st March, 1972 over £60 become converted to regulated tenancies on the 1st January, 1973, and those over £45 rateable value in July, 1973. Due to the "Freeze", however, rent increases will not take effect until the 28th April, 1973, and will rise by stages until the maximum is reached. Housing is now financed nationally with "fair rents" for all and rent rebates to those unable to afford the new rents from the local authorities who in turn recuperate the majority of the money from the Exchequer. Local authorities now have little control over their Housing accounts.

UNFIT HOUSES

The Demolition Order made in 1971 on Beaumont Manor Farm, Beaumont Road, was affected bringing the total of houses demolished or closed since 1953 to 200.

HOUSES REPAIRED:

During the year some 123 letters, intimation notices and abatement notices were issued requiring defects of repair to be carried out.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS:

Since 1949 some 264 houses have been improved with the aid of "Discretionary" Grants. In 1972, 26 applications were approved as follows :-

Premises	Maximum Grant £
201 Hammond Street Road	1,000.00
6, 7, 8, 9, & 10 Turnford Villas	3,588.07
37 Park Lane, Waltham Cross	567.32
167 Churchgate Road	471.63
11 Railway Road	574.00
20 Eleanor Road	643.70
32 Railway Road	533.75
35 Eleanor Road	748.68
23 Eleanor Road	668.26
Waltham Common Lock House	499.07
48 Dewhurst Road	624.80
7 Cadmore Lane	896.98
11 Park Lane, Waltham Cross	713.50
12 Cecil Road	543.85
93 Flamstead End Road	647.25
49 & 51 Longfield Lane	1,775.13
210 Turners Hill	877.42
47 Eleanor Road	936.10
47 Cecil Road	357.75
46 Bury Green Road	926.10

A further £225 was approved in respect of 70 Crossbrook Street for works which were required but not evident when the original grant was made.

STANDARD IMPROVEMENT GRANTS :

252 Standard Grants have been approved since 1959. 66 grants were approved in 1972 as follows : -

Premises	Maximum Grant £
46 Dewhurst Road	435
1 Delamare Road	450
9 Burleigh Road	435
39 Eleanor Road	405
11 Gews Corner	450
69 Cadmore Lane	450
5 Endeavour Road	435
108 Church Lane	110
81 Cromwell Avenue	185
126 Cromwell Avenue	405
21 Park Lane, Waltham Cross	405
19 Swanfield Road	435
7 Park Lane, Waltham Cross	405
69 Swanfield Road	405
25 Dewhurst Road	30
50 Lordship Road	50
46 Albury Grove Road	435
156 Crossbrook Street	450
63 Cromwell Avenue	450
51 Eleanor Road	435
27 King Edward Road	450
29 King Edward Road	450
7 Longfield Lane	435
6 Swanfield Road	450
7 Swanfield Road	405
10 Swanfield Road	405
12 Swanfield Road	435
14 Swanfield Road	405
21 Swanfield Road	405
25 Swanfield Road	435
27 Swanfield Road	405
29 Swanfield Road	405
36 Swanfield Road	435
61 Cadmore Lane	405
83 Queens Road	450
45 Albury Grove Road	435

Cont'd.

Premises	Maximum Grant £
2 Endeavour Road	450
3 Endeavour Road	450
8 Endeavour Road	450
9 Endeavour Road	450
10 Endeavour Road	450
13 Endeavour Road	450
14 Endeavour Road	450
16 Endeavour Road	450
17 Endeavour Road	450
18 Endeavour Road	450
20 Endeavour Road	450
21 Endeavour Road	450
23 Endeavour Road	450
24 Endeavour Road	450
27 Endeavour Road	450
31 Endeavour Road	450
35 Endeavour Road	450
37 Endeavour Road	450
38 Endeavour Road	450
40 Endeavour Road	450
41 Endeavour Road	450
42 Endeavour Road	450
44 Endeavour Road	450
47 Endeavour Road	450
48 Endeavour Road	450
52 Endeavour Road	450
56 Endeavour Road	450
36 Prospect Road	420
6 Stockwell Lane	450
11 Endeavour Road	435

QUALIFICATION CERTIFICATES ;

If an owner of a house, which had a rateable value of £40 or under on the 7th November 1956, is let to a controlled tenant and has the five basic standard amenities, the owner may apply to the local authority for a Qualification Certificate. If the house lacks one or more of the standard amenities the owner may apply for a combined Certificate. When the certificate has been approved the owner may apply to the Rent

Officer for a "Fair Rent" to be determined under the Rent Act, 1968. When this has been agreed the controlled tenancy is converted to a regulated one.

The Housing Finance Act, 1972, made amendments to the Housing Act, 1969, which in a short time will do away with the necessity of Qualification Certificates (see introductory remarks).

64 applications were received during the year making a total of 202 applications since their inception. So far 118 applications have been approved, 11 refused, 13 withdrawn and 60 pending.

CARAVANS:

At the end of the year there were seven individual site licences and three licences for more than three vans per site. The total caravans in the area was 142.

In May the site licence of the Waltham Cross Caravan Park was amended to allow an increase from 92 caravans to 96 subject to extra fire precautions being taken.

The gipsies who are camped on "Rosedale" the housing site of the Greater London Council at Flamstead End (referred to in my 1971 report) showed no signs of moving. The Greater London Council themselves did little to improve matters and in March it was necessary to ask the Committee to institute legal proceedings against the Greater London Council in contravention of Section 1 of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960. Before the case was heard in the local Magistrate's Court the Greater London Council had taken High Court action themselves against the caravaners for trespass. At the Cheshunt Court on the 9th August the Greater London Council were fined £10 and £20 costs were awarded.

The result was that the gipsies in question moved onto the roadside waste in Andrews Lane. The local papers "took up" their case and it was not long before they became a cause célèbre. The matter was on several occasions vigorously debated in Committee and Council. The outcome was that the Council, in conjunction with the Hertfordshire County Council, would try and find a site suitable for them. No site had been found by the end of the year.

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION:

150 Cromwell Avenue was again much inspected and reported on. Briefly the house was without certain facilities which had previously been provided and also the permitted number had increased from the maximum of 10 to 18. Legal proceedings had once again to be resorted to.

In May the owners were fined £1 each with no costs for failing to return information required under Section 170 of the Housing Act, 1957.

In November the owners were fined £10 and £5 costs were awarded for allowing more than 10 persons to reside in the house.

SECTION IV

CLEAN AIR

INDUSTRIAL :

This year has produced what appears to be a satisfactory solution to two "problem" emission sources of grit, dust and smuts, which for sometime past had given cause for concern.

The first of these was a factory situated adjacent to our District which had given rise to smut nuisance to local residents despite quite large amounts of money being spent to find a solution. The long awaited solution was finally achieved when the oil burning plant was converted to natural gas firing, with the consequent abatement of the "smut" problem.

The second involved a local scrap metal recovery factory where design features in the dust extraction system led to occasional obstructions and subsequent complaints of dust nuisance. After discussion and consultation the management of the Company suggested certain modifications to the trunking systems, and these have so far apparently resolved this problem.

Only two notifications of the installation of furnaces as required by Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, were received during the year. Only one request for approval of chimney height was received under Section 6 of the Clean Air Act, 1968, for a furnace exceeding one-and-a-quarter million B.Th.U's or its equivalent was approved.

DOMESTIC :

The continuous programme of smoke control areas established within the District was maintained with the coming into operation of the Cheshunt No. 7 Smoke Control Order. This Order extended the area to include that part of the district to the east of the Waltham Cross — Bishops Stortford railway line and the district boundaries with the Urban Districts of Hoddesdon and Waltham Holy Cross and the London Borough of Enfield. The area now subjected to Smoke Control extends to 1901 acres and 8,053 properties, or approximately 55% of the total domestic properties.

Some 38 complaints of smoke, grit, dust etc., were received during the year and once again by far the greater number of these were in respect of domestic garden bonfires. Whilst there is no direct prohibition of such fires, Section 16 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, authorises abatement action in cases which gives rise to a nuisance to other inhabitants of the area. Much can be done to minimise nuisance from this source by composting garden refuse as much as possible, or by confining these fires to reasonable times and when weather conditions are suitable. It is pertinent at this point to reiterate details given elsewhere in this

report of the facilities provided by the Council under the Civic Amenities Act, 1967, in the form of a disposal centre in the Manor House Depot, Turners Hill, where rubbish, including garden refuse can be deposited.

The following table shows details of the Smoke Control Areas : -

Area No.	Acres	Made	Order Confirmed	Operation	Total	Houses — Estimated No. on which	
						requiring Adaption	Grant paid
1	140	20.12.60	21.4.61	1.11.61	1562	178	116
2	280	19.12.61	20. 3.62	1.10.62	911	388	187
3	250	18.12.62	28. 3.63	1.10.63	1839	576	330
4	123	17. 4.64	18. 8.64	1. 7.65	1048	680	484
5	182	2. 7.68	13. 9.68	1. 7.69	1570	670	237
6	206	10. 2.70	11.11.70	1.10.71	532	90	25
7	720	14.12.71	21. 4.72	1.11.72	591	92	19
8	50	30.11.72			526	520	

MEASUREMENT OF POLLUTION :

Three sites continued to be used for the measurement of pollution from smoke and sulphur dioxide. The instruments used are maintained at Bishops College, Manor House Depot and Goffs Oak Playing Fields. The daily observations from these sites are submitted to Warren Springs Laboratory, who publish statistical summaries of the observations made by other Local Authorities.

The figures for Cheshunt are shown in the following table : -

AVERAGE YEARLY CONCENTRATION OF SMOKE

Situation	Smoke concentrations, microgrammes/cubic metre									
	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Bishops College	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34
Waltham Cross	84	76	64	49	47	43	36	48	53	—
Cheshunt	52	45	40	29	34	34	33	31	32	37.3
Goff's Oak	39	45	26	23	11	27	27	25	24	32.3
Average	58	55	43	34	31	35	32	35	36	34.5

AVERAGE YEARLY CONCENTRATION OF SULPHUR DIOXIDE

Situation	Sulphur Dioxide concentrations, microgrammes/cubic metre									
	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972
Bishops College	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	76
Waltham Cross	127	117	110	113	113	117	96	88	62	—
Cheshunt	112	96	101	91	101	92	101	103	103	97
Goff's Oak	106	104	73	96	54	44	37	41	39	38
Average	115	106	95	100	89	84	78	77	68	70

NOISE

Ever increasingly people are becoming more aware of the effects of noise on their daily lives and of the annoyance which it can cause. Noise continues to be an increasing problem and is often a difficult one to resolve especially as any unwanted sound can be described as a noise; also noise is a very subjective phenomenon. What can be pleasing to one person can at the same time be objectionable to another. The difficulty in resolving noise problems is that there is no universal cure and consequently each complaint must be considered individually.

No nuisances from noise necessitating formal action were received during the year although some 14 complaints were made. All cases were investigated and it is pleasing to report that in every case co-operation was forthcoming and the problem overcome. Some discomfort was again experienced from the melting furnace being installed in a local foundry, but here again after much discussion works are in progress and proposed which it is hoped will enable the plant to function without giving rise to a nuisance.

SECTION V

WORKING CONDITIONS

Almost all premises where persons are employed are controlled either by the Factories Acts, Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act or the Agricultural Act.

Inspection of Factories

1. INSPECTION FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	—	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority	144	110	8	—
(iii) Other premises under the Act, excluding outworkers' premises	5	6	—	—
Total	149	116	8	—

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				No of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) Unsuitable or defective	8	8	—	—	—
Other offences including offences under Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6	—	—	—	—	—
Total	8	8	—	—	—

There are 12 outworkers of registered processes, 11 of which are engaged in the making of wearing apparel and one is carding buttons.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

ANNUAL REPORT, 1972

Section 60 (1) of the above Act requires all Local Authorities to submit to the Department of Employment an Annual Report of their work under the Act for the 12 months period ending on the 31st December each year. The following is the Annual Report for the Urban District Council of Cheshunt for the period ending 31st December, 1972.

1. Registration and Inspection

The practice of carrying out a general inspection of each newly registered premises was continued during the review period, together with approximately 66% of all other premises on the register. In all a total of 433 visits and inspections were carried out. Apart from the newly registered premises, all others inspected were by way of "spot checks".

The number of registered premises in the District now totals 384 representing an increase of 45 registrations during the last twelve months. This has provided a consequential increase in the number of persons employed in registered premises; by far the greatest increase being recorded in persons employed in offices. The total number of persons employed at the end of the year was 4,460 of which 2,572 were female employees and 1,888 were male employees. The total is fractionally less than 10% of the total population of the area, and approximately 25% of the working population.

It is interesting to note the change in the numbers of persons employed in the various classes of premises. Earlier records show a predominance of shop employees, while to-day the number of office workers is almost twice the number of shop employees. This is due to the recent redevelopment in the area, and in particular the opening of several large office blocks.

2. Operation of General Provisions of the Act

It is pleasing to record that while contraventions of the Act and various Regulations were observed during the visits and inspections made, most were of a minor nature, and generally were rectified following either verbal or written notification. It was not found necessary to have recourse to the institution of legal proceedings in any case during the year. 36 letters were sent to the occupiers of premises requiring the defects to be rectified. These were chiefly concerning the provision of thermometers, abstracts, the need for redecoration or cleansing. In almost all cases remedial work had been effected by the end of the year.

Inspectors in the District are unanimous in their opinion that there is, as is to be expected, a greater knowledge and awareness, among owners, occupiers and employees of the requirements of the Act and the duties imposed. This also has meant that, in general, there is a wider acceptance of the Act, and much less initial resistance to compliance with its provisions.

3. Accidents.

Slightly fewer accidents were notified this year, the total being

some 26. None of these were fatal accidents, but in most cases were due to negligence on the part of the employee or employees involved. Approximately 48% of the accidents were the result of falls, either by tripping over electric cables on the floor or larger objects. Advice was given to the employers concerned and it is pleasing to report that in all cases this advice was acted upon immediately and satisfactory conditions re-instated.

Of the accidents involving machinery two are worthy of mention. The first involved a conveyor belt which was being repaired. Unknown to the person repairing the belt it was switched on and resulted in the maintenance worker receiving injuries to his hand. The second illustrates that familiarity with machinery without care can be dangerous. Whilst unloading palletted goods from a lorry in a warehouse, the operator of a fork lift truck operated the machine whilst standing on the machine and not on the operator's platform. Too late he realised that the truck was about to collide with a metal upright - he attempted to apply the brake because of his position on the truck could not do so and was struck in the stomach. No serious injury was sustained.

Accident notification by employers appears to be one of the least understood provisions of the Act, which is evident from the number of accidents notified which are not required to be notified or which should have been notified to some other Authority. This in itself may not however be bad, at least it shows that they are aware of the need to bring accidents to the notice of the Authority, and it may well be that advice can still be given in these cases. It is in the area customary for the Accident Notification provisions of the Act to be brought to the attention of employers during visits or inspections.

APPENDIX

(details as OSR. 14)

Registrations and General Inspections:

	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of reg- istered premises receiving a gene- ral inspection during the year
Offices	19	120	87
Retail Shops	25	225	160
Wholesale shops, warehouses	—	17	8
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	22	15
Fuel storage depots	—	—	—

Number of Visits:

Number of visits of all kinds by inspectors to registered premises - 433.

Analysis of persons employed in registered premises by Workplace:

Class of Workplace	Number of persons employed
Office	2,581
Retail shops	1,478
Wholesale departments, warehouses ...	289
Catering establishments open to the public	87
Canteens	25
Fuel storage depots	—
Total	4,460
Total Males	1,888
Total Females	2,572

Exemptions: Nil

Prosecutions: Nil

Inspectors:

Number of inspectors appointed under Section 52 (1) or (5) of the Act	... ..	5
Number of other staff employed for most of their time on work in connection with the Act	...	Nil

PLACES OF PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT

The Home Counties (Music and Dancing) Licensing Act, 1956, and the Hertfordshire (Music and Dancing) Regulations, 1955, are administered by the County Council. Under Regulation 5 a certificate from the local Council is required relating to sanitary accomodation and other facilities for new applications.

Only one application was received during the year and that was in respect of a 'music and dancing' licence. The premises were in compliance with the standard required by this Council and approval was, therefore, recommended.

The total number now licensed is 17.

SECTION VI

WATER SUPPLY

The whole of the district is within the area of supply of the Metropolitan Water Board. The Director of Water Examination has kindly supplied the following information relating to the supply for this area.

1. (a) The supply was satisfactory both as to (i) quality and (ii) quantity throughout 1972.
 - (b) All new and repaired mains are disinfected with chlorine, after a predetermined period of contact the pipes are flushed out and refilled; samples of water are then collected from these treated mains; and the mains are returned to service only after the analytical results are found to be satisfactory.
 - (c) (i) The Board has no record of the number of structually separate dwellings supplied in your area, but the population supplied direct according to the Registrar-General's estimated at 30th June, 1972, was 45,536.
 - (ii) No houses were permanently supplied by standpipe.

No artificial fluoride is being added, and where the fluoride content is indicated in the analyses it represents the naturally occurring fluoride in the water.

2. (a) The supply derived from the following works and pumping stations:- Mostly supplied from the Thames Valley group of works, with the addition of well water from Hoe Lane pumping station.

No new sources of supply were instituted and there were no changes to the general scheme of supply in your area.

The number of samples collected and the bacteriological and chemical analyses of the supply from the above sources after treatment are shown on the attached sheets.

- (b) On account of their hardness content and alkaline reaction the Board's river and well water supplies are shown to be not plumbo-solvent. It should, however, be appreciated that all types of water pick up varying amounts of metal from the material of water piping particularly when it is newly installed; this applies to copper, zinc, iron and also to lead.

METROPOLITAN WATER BOARD —

AVERAGE RESULTS OF THE CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF

MILLIGRAMMES PER LITRE

Description of the Sample	Number of Samples	Ammon- iacal Nitrogen	Albu- minoid Nitrogen	Nitrate Nitrogen	Oxygen abs. from KMnO ₄ 4 hrs at 27°C.	B.O.D. 5 days at 20°C	Hardness (total) CaCO ₃	Hardness (non- carbonate) CaCO ₃	Mag- nesium as Mg	Sodium Potassium as K	as Na
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
R. Thames- derived	364	0.031	0.069	6.9	1.06	—	274	82	5.0	24.5	5.5
Hoe Lane	4	0.088	0.026	0.7	0.37		454	186	26.0		

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS— WATER SUPPLIES TO CHESHUNT

BEFORE TREATMENT					
Source of supply	Number of samples	Agar plate count per ml.		Coliform count	
		20-24 hours at 37°C.	3 days at 22°C.	Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.	Count per 100 ml.
R. Thames- derived	8.087	42.3		41.94	10.2
Hoe Lane	251	0.3	11	98.41	—

WATER EXAMINATION DEPARTMENT

WATER SUPPLIES TO CHESHUNT URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

(unless otherwise stated) during 1972.

Chloride as Cl	Phos- phate as PO ₄	Silicate as SiO ₂	Sulphate as SO ₄	Natural Fluoride as F	Surface- active material as Manoxol OT		Tur- bidity units	Colour (Burgess units)	pH value	Electri- cal Con- ductivity (microm- hos)
(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	(21)	(22)	(23)
35	2.8	10	58	0.15	0.02		0.1	13	7.9	570
33				0.49			0.6	9	7.3	810

YEARLY AVERAGES, 1972

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Escherichia coli count			AFTER TREATMENT			
			Agar plate count per ml.		Coliform count	E. coli count
Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.	Count per 100 ml.	Number of samples	20-24 hours 37°C.	3 days at 22°C.	Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.	Per cent. samples negative in 100 ml.
56.76	4.0	3.891	10.0		99.85	99.97
99.20	—	254	0.4	15	100.0	100.0

All the premises in the area are supplied by mains water with the exception of:-

Aquaduct Lock House
Aquaduct Lock Cottage
Cheshunt Lock House
New River Cottage
Theobalds Park
Theobalds Cottage
Theobalds Riding School
Theobalds Camping Site
South Villa Nursery Cottage

During the year 11 water samples were taken; 8 from the deep wells. 1 from a shallow well and 2 from main supplies following complaints of the condition of the supply. In all cases the results were satisfactory.

SWIMMING BATHS

The water from the Swimming Pool owned by the Council was sampled on two occasions. The water from the paddling pools was sampled twice.

SECTION VII

INFESTATION

RODENT CONTROL

Property other than Sewers	Type of Property	
	Non-Agricultural	Agricultural
1. No. of properties in district	17,896	300
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	720	—
(b) Number infested (i) Rats	127	—
(ii) Mice	198	—
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	25	1
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	3	1
(ii) Mice	4	—

OTHER INFESTATIONS

During the year the advice of the Department was sought in dealing with the following pests : -

Ants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Bats	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Bees	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Bugs	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Carpet Beetles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Clover Mites	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Cockroaches	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fleas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Flies	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	2

Maggots ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Mason Bees	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Moles	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Pigeons	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Silver Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Wasps	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Wood Lice	...	...	...	...	...	...	1

A charge of 50p per treatment is made, except in the case of fleas and bugs which are dealt with free of charge.

SECTION VIII

PETROLEUM

During the year 56 licences were issued for the storage of petroleum spirit which amounted to 202,595 gallons. Fees received in respect of these licences were £237.

SECTION IX

MISCELLANEOUS

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

A licence to keep a pet shop was granted to Mr. M. M. Boswell, of 14 Cadmore Lane, Cheshunt, and the conditions recommended by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals were incorporated in the licence.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

Licences to keep a boarding establishment were issued to : -

Mrs. J. Bradley, Upwey Kennels, Hammond Street Road.

Mr. K. Cox, High View Farm, Crouch Lane.

Mr. L. J. Kerridge, Woodlands, Silver Street.

Mr. W. A. Meredith, Tyle Kiln Cottage, Theobalds.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACTS, 1964/70

An annual licence was issued to : -

Miss R. M. Taylor, Woodgreen Farm, Silver Street,

Provisional licences were issued to : -

Mr. K. W. Carruthers, Appleby Street Farm, Appleby Street.

Mrs. W. Hodges, Theobalds Park Riding School, Bullscross Ride.

THE SCRAP METAL DEALERS ACT, 1964

There were 15 Scrap Metal Dealers on the register at the end of the year of which 10 were itinerant collectors.

SHOPS ACTS, 1950/65

The majority of the work under these Acts is now carried out in conjunction with inspections under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act and Food Hygiene (General) Regulations under the Food and Drug legislation.

It was not found necessary during the year to take any formal action regarding hours of opening and the employment of young persons.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The sewers discharge into the Greater London Council's Sewage Disposal Works at Edmonton; Cheshunt is adequately provided with sewerage apart from some country areas where properties are drained to septic tanks or cesspools.

CESSPOOL DRAINAGE

The emptying of domestic cesspools by the local authority is free of charge up to a limit of 22,000 gallons per annum. Charges for amounts in excess of that quantity and the emptying of the non-domestic cesspools are based on the actual cost of the work.

DEPOSIT OF POISONOUS WASTE ACT, 1972

In August of this year the Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act and the Deposit of Poisonous (Notification of Removal or Deposit) Regulations, 1972, came into operation.

The main provisions make it an offence punishable by heavy penalties to deposit on land any poisonous, noxious or polluting waste in circumstances in which it can give rise to an environmental hazard. A notification procedure is also provided, under which those concerned are required to give local authorities and river authorities information about the nature and quantities of certain wastes arising or being deposited in an area. Three clear days notice of intention to remove or deposit the waste must be given.

The Act and Regulations do not specify the wastes that should be notified, but lists those which can be exempted from the requirement to give notice. There are two categories of exemption : -

- (a) unqualified exemption of waste which is specified as not being so poisonous, noxious or polluting. The schedule to the Regulations specifies the wastes which fall into this category and includes such items as house and trade refuse, building waste, mining waste, and waste consisting of paper, plastics, various metals and a range of other natural substances. However, if these wastes do contain a quantity or concentration of poisonous, noxious or polluting substance which may be hazardous they must be notified.
- (b) qualified exemption for waste which is of a prescribed description and is deposited in a prescribed manner or circumstance. The waste, which falls into this category, includes farm chemicals, radio-active waste, waste deposited in circumstances of emergency and waste deposited pursuant to a certain type of statutory authority.

During the latter part of the year this department received 15 notifications of removal of poisonous wastes, which were all deposited outside this authority. One application was received to deposit poisonous waste into a wet pit within this authority, but this was refused. The refuse tips in this area require planning permission and consent under the Hertfordshire County Council Acts, 1935/70. Standard conditions are laid down for the disposal of non-putrescible and non-poisonous waste onto the tips, and no material shall be deposited on the site which is likely to contaminate or discolour surface or underground water supplies having regard to the nature of the site and its surroundings and the particular material to be deposited.

The enforcement of Deposit of Poisonous Waste Act, 1972, has again broadened the work of the Public Health Inspector in the field of environmental pollution control. In this department it has led to discussions with the Geologists and Officers of the Protection of Water Department, Lee Conservancy Catchment Board and Scientists of several Chemical manufacturers, thus ensuring that all precautions are taken to prevent unnecessary pollution of the environment.

REFUSE DUMPS

Dumping of refuse is controlled by consents granted by the Hertfordshire County Council and the District Council under the Hertfordshire County Council Acts, 1935/70. No new consents were granted during the year, but the dumping of refuse on an existing site created problems when tipping progressed into a water logged pit. Extraction of gravel had been carried out in the area and infilling was taking place with non-putrescible refuse, consisting mainly of builders rubble and commercial waste. The pit in question was separate from watercourses in the area, and had no fresh inlet. The problem arose during warm weather when a hydrogen sulphide smell was emitted from the water, and with an easterly wind caused some nuisance in the surrounding neighbourhood. This smell was produced due to the following main factors : -

- (a) the presence of sulphate reducing bacteria,
- (b) anaerobic conditions,
- (c) a high water temperature,
- (d) tipping refuse into a large expanse of water.

To alleviate the smell nuisance the tip operator was advised to tip into a smaller area and to infill as quickly as possible. The pit was, therefore, divided into two thus providing a "clean" section in which the water was clear of any refuse and smell. The infilling of the other section from which sulphuretted hydrogen was emanating then continued without creating nuisance throughout the whole expanse of water. Two pumps were also installed on the site and were used to increase the aeration of the water. Conditions slowly began to improve and then

finally with a drop in temperature of the water as the weather became colder the smells were eliminated.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The refuse collection and disposal service is under the control of the Council's Engineer and Surveyor.

The Council undertake a weekly collection of house refuse in all parts of the Urban District, and the refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping in gravel pits. The collection of trade refuse is also undertaken.

A disposal centre to meet the requirements of the Civic Amenities Act, 1967, is provided in Turners Hill. Rubbish may be taken to the disposal centre in the Manor House Depot, Turners Hill, on Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m., and on Sundays from 9.00 a.m. to noon.

Unwanted motor vehicles may still be taken to Cheshunt Council Depot (rear of Public Library, Turners Hill) between 7.30 a.m. and 4.30 p.m. Mondays to Fridays.

A 'Lindemann-Newell' fragmentiser is operated by Messrs. W. C. Jones & Co., Waltham Cross, and is stated to be able to deal with about 150,000 vehicles a year, or about 75,000 tons of light scrap metal. Details of the arrangements under which unwanted motor vehicles will be accepted should be obtained direct from the Company

